

House Resolution 1653

By: Representatives Epps of the 128th and Smith of the 129th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Jeremy Williams and inviting the Williams family to be
2 recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Jeremy Williams has demonstrated that with faith in God and self, even the
4 most difficult struggles and adversity can be overcome; and

5 WHEREAS, a talented athlete and coach, Mr. Williams was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's
6 Disease three years ago but has not allowed his condition to dampen his spirits or his will to
7 accomplish great things during his life; and

8 WHEREAS, he started his football career as a quarterback for Kendrick High School in
9 Columbus, Georgia, and dreamed of continuing football after graduation but was warned he
10 was too small for college football; and

11 WHEREAS, through persistence, determination, and an iron will, Mr. Williams earned a
12 position on the football team at Memphis State University, where he was given the nickname
13 "Georgia Assassin" by his coaches and teammates and earned distinction as an Academic
14 All-American; and

15 WHEREAS, after his graduation from Memphis State, Mr. Williams served as an assistant
16 coach for Manchester High School, helping to lead the team to a state championship title in
17 1997; and

18 WHEREAS, he coached at Harris County High School for three years before accepting the
19 position of head coach for Greenville High School, where he recently completed an
20 undefeated regular season and earned a Region 4-A Championship and trip to the state
21 playoffs; and

22 WHEREAS, when he is not on the field, Mr. Williams spends his time spreading a message
23 of hope throughout his community and this state, encouraging others to push past their
24 struggles and reach for their dreams, which earned him recognition as the 2009 Citizen of the
25 Year for Meriwether County; and

26 WHEREAS, a resident of Pine Mountain Valley, Mr. Williams is united in love and marriage
27 to his supportive wife, Jennifer, and he has been blessed with two children, Josie and Jacob;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams has inspired countless individuals with his quiet determination
30 in the face of adversity, including his son, Jacob, who was born with Spina Bifida, which
31 paralyzes him from the waist down, yet has been affectionately referred to as the "Mayor of
32 Pine Mountain Valley, Pine Valley, and Greenville" for his outgoing personality and his
33 amazing outlook on life; and

34 WHEREAS, in honor of their unyielding commitment to one another and improving the lives
35 of others, the Williams family was selected to be on the ABC reality series *Extreme*
36 *Makeover: Home Edition*, which brought together local volunteers, community leaders, and
37 the Palm Harbor Homes company to renovate the family's home to a place of amazement and
38 is set to air on May 16, 2010; and

39 WHEREAS, the Williams family was the recipient of great generosity and compassion from
40 their neighbors and local businesses, with CVS pharmacy helping to erase their medical debt,
41 Columbus State University presenting the Williams children with four year scholarships, and
42 an anonymous donor giving the family a handicapped-equipped van.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
44 the members of this body recognize Mr. Jeremy Williams for his incredible spirit and
45 determination; commend him for the example of courage and strength he has set for his
46 players, family, friends, and neighbors; and invite the Williams family to be recognized by
47 the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the
48 House of Representatives.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
50 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Williams family.